

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-28 (cancelled).

29. (new) A doctor blade mounting system for applying liquids to a rotatable cylinder in printing equipment comprising an elongated frame mounted adjacent to said rotatable cylinder, said elongated frame including a support and a clamping portion mounted with respect to said support, said clamping portion including an elongated slit, a doctor blade disposed within said elongated slit parallel to said rotatable cylinder for operative wiping engagement with said rotatable cylinder, and clamping means for fixing said doctor blade within said elongated slit, said clamping means being resiliently disposed with respect to said doctor blade to provide a damping action for said doctor blade.

30. (new) The doctor blade mounting system of claim 29 wherein said clamping means is tightly received within said elongated slit.

31. (new) The doctor blade mounting system of claim 29 wherein said clamping means fixes said doctor blade by means of friction.

32. (new) The doctor blade mounting system of claim 29 wherein said clamping means supports at least one side of said doctor blade disposed within said elongated slit.

33. (new) The doctor blade mounting system of claim 29 wherein said clamping means is resiliently disposed within said elongated slit.

34. (new) The doctor blade mounting system of claim 29 wherein said clamping means is removably disposed within said elongated slit.

35. (new) The doctor blade mounting system of claim 29 wherein said clamping means comprises at least one elastomeric member.

36. (new) The doctor blade mounting system of claim 35 wherein at least a portion of said clamping means is in the shape of a wedge strip comprising a shape intended to fit and lock within a cross-sectional profile of said elongated slit.

37. (new) The doctor blade mounting system of claim 35 wherein at least a portion of said clamping means supports an edge of said doctor blade disposed within said elongated slit.

38. (new) The doctor blade mounting system of claim 35 wherein said elastomeric member has a hardness of about 70 degrees Shore.

39. (new) The doctor blade mounting system of claim 29 wherein said support and said clamping portion comprise separate parts, and said support includes at least one end portion, and wherein said clamping means resiliently clamps said clamping portion to said end portion of said support.

40. (new) A doctor blade mounting system comprising a doctor blade clamping portion comprising a solid material and including a slit for receiving a doctor blade, and clamping means for clamping said doctor blade within said slit, said clamping means being resiliently arranged to provide a damping motion for said doctor blade.

41. (new) The doctor blade mounting system of claim 40 wherein said clamping means is tightly received within said slit.

42. (new) The doctor blade mounting system of claim 40 wherein said clamping means fixes said doctor blade by means of friction.

43. (new) The doctor blade mounting system of claim 40 wherein said clamping means supports at least one side of said doctor blade disposed within said slit.

44. (new) The doctor blade mounting system of claim 40 wherein said clamping means is resiliently disposed within said slit.

45. (new) The doctor blade mounting system of claim 40 wherein said clamping means is removably disposed within said slit.

46. (new) The doctor blade mounting system of claim 40 wherein said clamping means comprises at least one elastomeric member.

47. (new) The doctor blade mounting system of claim 46 wherein at least a portion of said clamping means is in the shape of a wedge strip comprising a shape intended to fit and lock within a cross-sectional profile of said slit.

48. (new) The doctor blade mounting system of claim 46 wherein at least a portion of said clamping means supports an edge of said doctor blade disposed within said slit.

49. (new) The doctor blade mounting system of claim 46 wherein said elastomeric member has a hardness of about 70 degrees Shore.

50. (new) A chambered doctor blade mounting system for applying liquids to a rotatable cylinder in printing equipment comprising an elongated frame mounted adjacent to said rotatable cylinder, said elongated frame comprising a support and a pair of clamping portions, a pair of elongated doctor blades mounted on said pair of clamping portions whereby said pair of elongated doctor blades are disposed parallel to said rotatable cylinder for operative wiping engagement with said rotatable cylinder, each of said pair of clamping portions including an elongated

slit for receiving each of said pair of elongated doctor blades, said pair of clamping portions and said support comprising separate parts, said support including a pair of end portions, and clamping means resiliently clamping said clamping portion to said pair of end portions of said support.

51. (new) A method for removably clamping a doctor blade in a clamping member comprising an elongated clamping member comprising solid material, said elongated clamping member including a slit for introduction of said doctor blade, said method comprising inserting a portion of said doctor blade into said slit, and inserting resilient clamping means into said slit for resiliently supporting at least one side of said doctor blade within said slit.

52. (new) The method of claim 51 including lubricating said clamping means prior to inserting said clamping means into said slit.

53. (new) The method of claim 52 wherein said clamping means comprising an elastomeric member, and including manually inserting said clamping means into said slit.

54. (new) The method of claim 51 including attaching said clamping means to a substantially U-shaped support.

55. (new) A method for removably attaching a doctor blade clamping portion to a support, said doctor blade clamping portion including a first slit and a second slit, said first slit intended to accommodate said doctor blade, said method comprising introducing the end portions of said frame into said second slit and inserting resilient clamping means into said second slit for resiliently supporting at least one side of said clamping portion.